

Believe it or not, in my small town of Columbus, Indiana, I grew up next door to a Hungarian immigrant who fled Hungary in the wake of the Soviet repression of the Hungarian Revolution in 1956. I sat often with Julius Perr, now passed away, and heard of the way the Hungarian people, inspired by our calls for freedom, stood up for their own freedom. And as Bret Stephens recounts in today's Wall Street Journal, We stood by idly, we didn't want to interfere, and the Soviet tanks rolled.

We cannot stand idly by, speak of Iran sovereignty, speak of their own right to choose their own leadership at a time when hundreds of thousands of Iranians are risking their liberty, and even their lives, to stand for free elections and democracy.

Ronald Reagan said, There is no arsenal or no weapon in the arsenals of the world so formidable as the will and moral courage of free men and women. All of us desire a fresh start with Iran, and it seems from news reports and the extraordinary images coming from the streets of Iran that millions of Iranians long for a new start in their government. There is a reformist movement afoot in Iran.

Today, I will introduce a resolution. I urge all of my colleagues in both parties to join me in expressing support for these brave and courageous men and women.

WHERE'S THE TRANSPARENCY?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) for 5 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I do appreciate this opportunity.

You know, there's so many people out of work around this country. We know since President Obama took office 2 million more people have lost jobs. It's staggering and quite sobering.

I recently met with many people who are unemployed in a north Lufkin church, and I guess virtually all were African Americans. These were people that were ready to go to work, willing to go to work, good, strong work ethic, have families, deeply caring about their community and their families. And so it got me to looking and thinking what can I do to use my position to try to help people get jobs.

There's the Texas Workforce Commission that does a good job trying to have job fairs. It turned out by using my position, partnering with other groups, the Chamber, different groups, we were able to have 50 employers with over 1,000 jobs to offer, but even that doesn't satisfy all of the need for all of the jobs people are needing that are out of work.

But it did sensitize me to the fact, look around for job opportunities. Where is this Nation spending money that might go to help people who are unemployed? Where could they get jobs? We've got another job fair coming up in Longview in a couple of weeks, and we're hoping it will be as successful.

But as I look around and I see the millions of dollars being spent and I hear from constituents, and having a heart, wanting to help them, I'm brought to the question after we hear about the Uyghurs, four of them going to Bermuda—although we were promised great transparency—and that was one of the things that appealed to the voters of the United States, that if we elect this administration we will have complete transparency, everything will be transparent, we'll know what they're spending money on, we will know what they're doing. Well, we don't know. They won't tell us what money has been sent to Bermuda to take four Uyghurs, but some are estimating \$12 million apiece. They don't think it's very much, maybe \$12 million apiece or so. We know that supposedly other Uyghurs are going from Guantanamo to Palau.

One report I read estimated that over the last 14 years, going back to the middle of the Clinton administration, we paid Palau about \$852 million just for aid. And so there's some question that we're going to pay them more millions to take these, or since their 15-year agreement is up, are they willing to take these?

The bottom line is millions and millions of dollars are being paid to take 17 Uyghurs, and for those that don't know, those are people in China who, because of their religious belief, are adverse to China. And we know that these 17 were captured in terrorist camps in Afghanistan. Some say, well, they weren't being trained to terrorize us, but they were in terrorist camps in Afghanistan.

So the question many are asking now is, for those 2 million of us who have lost our jobs since January of this year, what terrorist camp can we go to to train so that maybe we could spend the rest of our lives at U.S. expense on the beaches of Bermuda? We saw the people, the pictures of the four Uyghurs in Bermuda. They really seemed to be enjoying themselves, laughing, cutting up, out there on the beach, the waves crashing. Those Uyghurs who have gone to Palau, how many millions have been paid we don't know. But I have got a bunch of constituents who are willing to go train in terrorist camps, in Afghanistan if necessary, if our government will pay millions of dollars to send them to the beaches.

Also, one other point, we know there's been no transparency with the auto task force. We don't know what they're being paid. We just know that this group that has never run anything in the car business is running the car businesses and dictating what will happen. Well, I've got lots of people that are every bit as unqualified to run the car business in my district who are unemployed. They want that job. Where do they apply to run the car businesses of America and get on the auto task force? We want to know because they'd like that job.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 19 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

UNITED STATES ASSOCIATION OF FORMER MEMBERS OF CONGRESS 2009 ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

Mr. HERTEL. It is an honor for me to introduce the gentleman from Maryland, who for over three decades has provided leadership in this House on behalf of the Democratic Party, on behalf of the State of Maryland but on behalf of our Nation, most importantly.

This session of Congress that we are in today has been the most productive in my lifetime. We see the many challenges that face us—on the economy, the war, on health care, on all the different issues that have faced the American public, and the majority leader, who has been forging ahead and working in a bipartisan way on these very important challenges, has had the time not only to play golf with us yesterday at our Wounded Warriors tournament but to come again this morning and take some time to welcome us.

Thank you very much, Majority Leader.

Mr. HOYER. Thank you very much, Mr. Vice President, Mr. Speaker. You know Bob Michel was my Speaker. You've heard my story on going up to Ray LaHood and saying, Ray—this is 1995, John—and I said to Ray, who was presiding—you know, Ray presided a lot and was an excellent presiding officer. I went up to him and told him—we had about 197 votes at that point in time. I said, you know, I'll get you 197, you get 21 and we'll elect Bob Michel the Speaker. He smiled. It probably crossed his mind that that was a worthwhile endeavor but maybe he couldn't get there.

But in any event, it's always a pleasure to be with Bob Michel and all of you; my former colleague in the Maryland delegation, Connie Morella, who is one of your officers in this organization; John Rhodes, with whom I served. John, thank you very much for the great service you gave to this country and that your father gave to this country and that you continue to give to this country. We're blessed by that. And all of you with whom I have served over the years. As a matter of fact, most of the people as I look around here, it was a great pleasure to serve with you. Marty Russo, of course, I served with him as well and that was a little more of a trial.

Marty played golf yesterday. Dennis, he's really feeling badly. He shot six under par and he didn't win. He thinks it was fixed that the former Members were not allowed to win the tournament. He said, you know, what was the worth of playing in it.

I'm very pleased to be here with you. I try to join you every year. Your ranks seem a little smaller this year than they have in years past. Maybe some folks will be coming in.

I rose on the floor about 3 or 4 weeks ago just before the Memorial break and said, Look, when we come back, we're going to be more timely in the counting of the votes. We're going to try to keep the votes down to somewhere in the neighborhood of 20 minutes as opposed to, they were getting to average 25 minutes, which was, you do that over 10, 15, 20 votes over the course of a day, it really extends the day. The chairmen were having people waiting in their committees. We're struggling to get there. If I close it out—Alexis Covey-Brandt—Alexis, wave—she is now our floor director. And then sitting next to Alexis is someone I think probably all of you know, she is the granddaughter of a great American, a great Representative in this House, the former Speaker of the House, Tip O'Neill, Catlin O'Neill, who represents the Speaker on the floor and helps manage the floor. We're pleased to be here with you.

Dennis, you were very kind about reaching out in a bipartisan way. I lament the fact that when Bob Michel was here, we had reaching out more in a bipartisan fashion because both sides I think were inclined to do so. We had more golf tournaments, Bob, and we played more and spent more time with one another. I played golf yesterday with JOHN BOEHNER. I drove the cart. He rode along. He scored well. I tried to stay in the hunt. JOHN and I talked about trying to work things in a more bipartisan fashion, but very frankly as all of you have observed, the confrontation continues in a somewhat strident tone too often in this House. That was not so early on when I came here but frankly almost every decade it has escalated and that's unfortunate.

But, on the other hand, I think Dennis is right. This may be the most productive 5 months that I've spent in the House. I don't mean that we haven't had other productive times—we have—but the agenda that we confronted as we took over at a time of crisis, with a brand new President, an historic President. 2008, an historic year. I think all of us are pleased that we were alive to watch what America did in 2008. I thought JOHN MCCAIN's best speech of the campaign was the night he lost. It was not only a gracious speech but it was a speech that tried to bring the country together in support of our newly elected President, and I thought it showed JOHN MCCAIN at his very best. Obama gave a speech that showed him at his very best. And frankly I think George Bush the next day, on Wednesday, gave a brief speech which showed him at his very best. And the three of them together showed America at its very best.

I tell people that one of the proudest days of my service in the House of Representatives and of my country was on

the day that was one of my most disappointing. And that, of course, was January 20, 2001, when my side clearly thought it had won the election, had received a half a million more American votes than our opponent, George Bush, but notwithstanding that, by a 5-4 vote, the Supreme Court of the United States had brought the election to a close. And so as we sat there on the podium, I was about 10 feet from Bill Clinton, about 15 feet from George Bush, and within minutes—and it happened in seconds as you know—within minutes, the most power in one person that exists on the face of the Earth was passed peacefully, notwithstanding the extraordinary concerns that the then-incumbent President of the United States, who had that power in his grasp—it was in his grasp—notwithstanding that, he released it peacefully, without a shot being fired, without demonstrations in the streets on that day, and America showed the world once again that it was a nation of laws.

That was a proud day, I think, for all of us, a wrenching day for those of us who were on the losing side on that day but a proud day for our country. All of us in this Chamber have had the opportunity to serve in the people's House, the repository of that power to make the laws that govern, not of men but of laws.

And so I always take the opportunity to thank all of you. And we lament the fact that we've lost—I'm not sure how many people we've lost. John, I am sure there will be a recitation of that and a remembrance of those we've lost. But one person with whom I had the opportunity and I think most of you had the opportunity to serve, we lost. In doing so, we lost a great spirit, not just a great former Member of the Congress. I'm not going to read all of it but I remember him quoting Teddy Roosevelt on a relatively regular basis. I've got the whole quote, but I'm just going to read you a few lines of it:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena."

I choose like I choose "all men are created equal" to consider "man" in that sense generic—for human beings.

It goes on to say:

"The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena."

And then it concludes:

"Who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

All of us got in the arena. We put our egos on the line. Sometimes those egos can be severely bruised in this business internally and certainly externally.

But we got in the arena because we knew that that is where you could make a difference, for the people that were your neighbors, for your family and for your country. And for that, I think Americans honor each and every one of you, and I thank you for having learned from you, been impressed by you, using in many cases you as an example of how we ought to work together.

It's easier when you get out of Congress, I think, to adopt that premise, because you then look not so much on the differences but on the similarities. Far too often as human beings we look at the differences, that which divides us, as opposed to that which brings us together, the values that we have in common.

JOHN, before you came in, I mentioned the fact that you and I played golf together. We had a great time. We spent 4 or 5 hours riding around the course together, enjoying one another, learning from one another. JOHN's really a student of golf. He was helping me be a little better than normally I am. But we need to learn from those experiences and learn from people like Bob Michel, who lived life in Congress teaching all of us that.

So I thank you for staying active, keeping the faith, providing ongoing examples that simply being elected is not the only way to serve. You continue to serve in so many positive roles. I know on behalf of the Speaker, I know JOHN will speak for himself, we welcome you back to this Chamber which meant so much in your lives and to which you meant so much in your service.

Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Mr. Vice President.

You know, I read that and of course I hope all of you know the person I was referring to was Jack Kemp—who reflected, I think, JOHN—I served with Jack on the Appropriations Committee for a significant period of time, and Jack always had that positive spirit, that hand reached out to include rather than to exclude. We miss Jack Kemp. He was a great servant in this House and a great servant of his party and a great servant of his country.

Mr. HERTEL. I want to thank the majority leader for taking the time with us. For someone of his stature and experience it means a great deal for those of us gone but not forgotten as he comes to see us and take the time out of his schedule. Today at noon, Majority Leader HOYER and Jack Kemp will be honored by the Victims of Communism Memorial program which is going to take place in the Visitors Center for all of their work in triumphing over communism. Leader HOYER was chairman of the Helsinki Commission which did so much to make a difference in this world that we have today because they brought down the Soviet Union and assisted all those people seeking freedom in Eastern Europe and around the globe. The Helsinki Commission's work is one of the most outstanding things this Congress has ever

done and it was led by Majority Leader HOYER.

And now it is my great honor to recognize the distinguished minority leader, the gentleman from Ohio, our Republican leader, a great friend of ours who also took the time to spend with us yesterday at the Wounded Warriors golf match, Mr. JOHN BOEHNER.

Mr. BOEHNER. As I look around, most of you I know, not all of you but most of you, and on behalf of my colleagues and I, I just want to say welcome back. Your service here clearly was an honor or you probably wouldn't have come back, and clearly all of us have had an opportunity to work with you. But we do appreciate your service, we appreciate your coming back and appreciate what you do to help this institution that we have all had an opportunity to serve in. I think a special congratulations is in order for Lou today, having celebrated some 50 years in public service and will be receiving an award from all of you today.

STENY and I did play golf yesterday. We did have a wonderful year. And it really reminded me of kind of a motto that I learned from Bob Michel, and that is that you can disagree without being disagreeable. I think all of you know that there are some major things happening here and clearly there's not quite a consensus on those things moving ahead. And so part of my mantra to my colleagues on our side is that to stand up and fight the fight but, you know, you don't have to be disagreeable in the process. There are plenty of facts to lay on the table.

I really do appreciate all of you being here and appreciate the work you do for our institution and glad to welcome all back.

Thank you.

Mr. HERTEL. I want to thank the Republican leader for taking the time but also the interest and the leadership in helping us with the Wounded Warriors project that was so very important. He's been there the last 2 years to lead the way and we've been able to raise over \$200,000 now for the Disabled Sports and Wounded Warriors project. We just can't thank our two leaders enough for participating because that will make the difference in getting more participation of sponsors and Members to come out to that tournament so it can be ongoing and benefit these veterans that have done so much for our country.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. HERTEL. And now it is my privilege to ask our Republican leader, Bob Michel, to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Michel led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mr. HERTEL. The Clerk will now call the roll of former Members of Congress.

The Clerk called the roll of the former Members of Congress, and the

following former Members answered to their names:

Hon. Bill Alexander, AR
Hon. Clarence Brown, OH
Hon. Nancy Boyda, KS
Hon. Jack Buechner, MO
Hon. Bill Burlison, MO
Hon. Joe DioGuardi, NY
Hon. Ed Foreman, TX, NM
Hon. Lou Frey, FL
Hon. Ben Gilman, NY
Hon. Dennis Hertel, MI
Hon. William Hughes, NJ
Hon. Barbara Kennelly, CT
Hon. Ron Klink, PA
Hon. Ernie Konnyu, CA
Hon. Ken Kramer, CO
Hon. Martin Lancaster, NC
Hon. Ron Mazzoli, KY
Hon. Matt McHugh, NY
Hon. Bob Michel, IL
Hon. Connie Morella, MD
Hon. Jay Rhodes, AZ
Hon. Phil Ruppe, MI
Hon. Marty Russo, IL
Hon. Jim Symington, MO
Hon. Lindsey Thomas, GA

Mr. HERTEL. The Chair announces that 26 former Members of Congress have responded to their names.

The Chair now recognizes the gentleman from Arizona, the Honorable Jay Rhodes, the President of our Association.

Mr. RHODES. Dennis, thank you. Thank you very much for hobbling in. We appreciate the fact that it's not altogether easy for you at this particular point in your recovery. We very much appreciate all of your service to all of us. You are now in the category of wounded warrior. We're happy to see that you are at least making a slow but steady recovery.

I appreciate very much the fact that Mr. HOYER and Mr. BOEHNER took the time to come and be with us this morning. I think their comments were very, very pertinent and to the point. I especially would like to associate myself with Mr. HOYER's comments about the regrettable deterioration in relationships between the parties on the floor. It does call to mind the days when Bob Michel was our leader and when Tip O'Neill was the leader and the Speaker, and also the days frankly when my dad had preceded Bob. Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rhodes, and Mr. Michel, some of their favorite stories deal with their relationships off the floor. I think it's a shame that the relationships off the floor here don't reflect the kind of camaraderie that even was in existence still in 1986 when Ernie Konnyu and Connie Morella and Jack Buechner and NANCY PELOSI and I came into this Chamber. I think that each of us could say that things were a lot better in 1986 and we can each say we saw them start to deteriorate from that point on. And it's sad. It's not good for the institution and it's not good for the country.

It is a pleasure to be back here and we appreciate the opportunity to present the annual report of the U.S. Association. I and some of my colleagues will report on our activities

and projects that we have undertaken over the course of the past year and we will present our Distinguished Service Award.

As you all know, the Association is fiercely nonpartisan, or fiercely bipartisan. It was chartered by Congress but you know that we receive no public funding, no appropriations, no earmarks, nothing from the United States Congress in terms of funding the operations of this association. Our purpose is to promote public service and strengthen democracy, both abroad and at home. And when I say we promote public service, I want to emphasize that when we utilize one of our flagship programs, which is the Congress to Campus Program, that our purpose is not to go to college campuses and encourage young people to become politicians. Our purpose is to go to college campuses and encourage young people to consider public service as an honorable profession for their lives. And I think that we make a contribution in that regard. There are approximately 600 former Senators and Representatives who belong to this association. We reckon that there are probably about a thousand living persons who have served in the past in either the House or the Senate and roughly 600 of them belong to our association. We are united to teach about Congress and the importance of representative democracy. All the activities which we are about to describe are financed either through dues, program-specific grants and sponsors, or our fundraising dinner. Our finances are sound, our projects are fully funded, and our 2008 audit, which was completed fairly recently by our outside accounting firm, comes back to us with a completely clean bill of health. We have had a very successful, active, and rewarding year. We have continued our work serving as a liaison between the current Congress and legislatures abroad; we have created partnerships with highly respected institutions in the area of democracy building and election monitoring; we have developed new projects which we are in the process of expanding, including our webcasting civics education program; and we again sent dozens of bipartisan teams of former Members to university campuses here in the United States and abroad as part of the Congress to Campus Program. I am sure that those of you who have participated in that program know that in the majority of the cases our members who come back from having participated say almost universally that they benefited more, the former Members benefited more than they think they brought benefit to the young people that we talked to. That is a reflection of the fact that our young population is much more sophisticated, much more educated and much more enthusiastic about their futures than they generally get credit for.

I am very pleased now to report on the program work as we've gone through this year. Our first report will

be delivered by the gentlelady from Connecticut, Ms. Kennelly. Over the past 4 years, we have made it a priority to put unique capabilities inherent in our membership to productive use in the area of democracy building overseas and legislative strengthening overseas. I am pleased to announce today that we have a major new program to support these efforts. We have been awarded a grant by the U.S. Agency for International Development so that bipartisan teams of former Members can travel to emerging democracies and interact with their legislative branches on a peer-to-peer basis. Our teams will work with the bipartisan House Democracy Assistance Commission to conduct workshops, panels and presentations for the legislative branches of numerous countries around the globe. We not only talk to the elected legislative representatives but also to their staffs and silently we say to them, Do as we say, don't do as we do. But I think that we have lessons to impart to legislative branches, both Members and staff overseas, and I am very happy to yield to the gentlelady from Connecticut to report on this.

BENEDICTION

Mr. HERTEL. Mr. President, we have been joined by the House Chaplain, Father Coughlin, and at this moment I would just ask before we go further with our report that we ask Father Coughlin, the House Chaplain, to give us a benediction.

Mr. RHODES. I would yield to the House Chaplain, Father Coughlin.

Rev. COUGHLIN. I am honored to be here with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, we praise You and bless You as the Lord of our lives. Each of us has a story to tell. For each of us this has been a journey, a journey with many ups, many downs, many prizes, many rewards, and at the same time many sacrifices.

Bless our constituents who brought us here. Bless all our family members who have stood by us at all times. Bless us now. Help us, Lord, to meet You at the present moment, for that's where You are always to be found. We thank You for all You have given us in the past, we praise You now and ask for health and happiness in the present that we may be your instruments of bringing good news, power, integrity, justice and goodness to this country.

Bless us that we may serve always, upholding the Constitution that holds us all together. Confirm us in liberty and in justice, now and forever. Amen.

Mr. HERTEL. Thank you, Father. Now I do recognize the gentleman from Arizona.

Mr. RHODES. I yield to the gentlelady from Connecticut.

Ms. KENNELLY. Thank you, Mr. President.

May I take this opportunity to thank you and our Executive Director, Pete Weichlein. These two gentlemen have worked so hard this year and as Dennis said, we've had really a very successful

year and I think we're going into a whole new dimension and my report will show that.

Thank you, Jay, for your introduction and thank you for your leadership in securing the AID grant you just announced. The House Democracy Assistance Commission is an undertaking of the House of Representatives to strengthen democracy in those institutions by assisting parliaments in emerging democracies. One of the objectives of HDAC is to provide expert advice to members and staff of the parliaments of partner countries. HDAC is chaired by Congressmen DAVID PRICE of North Carolina and DAVID DREIER of California. It is an extension of the great work begun by former Congressmen Martin Frost and Gerry Solomon as past of the Frost-Solomon Task Force. We are pleased to be able to play an important part in this outstanding project.

Via the AID grant, bipartisan teams of former Members will travel to six countries in 2009 and 2010. These countries probably will be Georgia, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Peru and Ukraine. We will focus our projects on areas including legislative strengthening, legal reform, constituent representation, oversight and budget capacity. We will spend about one week in each country. In addition to meeting with legislators, we hope that each visit can include some time spent at local universities. It is one of the core beliefs of this organization that we need to reach out to the next generation of leaders, whether in the United States or abroad, and share some of our experiences and visions. This grant is a very exciting development for our organization and we look forward to reporting on these missions when we return to this great hall next year.

In addition to the HDAC project, we continue the good work commenced by Jack Buechner, former president of this organization. I am referring to the International Election Monitors Institute which we created in conjunction with our Canadian and European Union sister organizations. IEMI takes former legislators from the United States, Canada and Europe and trains them in proper election monitoring techniques and a code of conduct. To this end, we have been able to put together a 2-day training course which we have now administered six times in Ottawa. The course, as well as a host of other achievements for the Institute, was made possible via a 3-year grant from the Canadian International Development Agency. Dozens of United States, Canadian and European former legislators have gone through the training and are now well versed in the actual set of responsibilities and challenges that come with election observation. For the near future, we have identified two crucial elections, and these certainly are crucial elections, where we hope to have some of our observers present: August of this year in Afghanistan and January 2010 in Iraq. Our

model is to partner with reputable like-minded organizations in the United States, Europe or Canada and funnel our trained former Members into their delegations. In the past we have used this model quite successfully, for example, by working with the National Democratic Institute during their observer missions to Morocco and Ukraine. Our colleague Dennis Hertel of Michigan is the current president of IEMI and we thank him for his leadership.

In addition to partnering with organizations such as NDI, IRI and IFES on election monitoring missions, we have just entered a new partnership with the State University of New York. SUNY Albany houses one of the leading democracy building NGOs in the country—the Center for International Development. Our association has entered into a partnership agreement with SUNY to compete for a USAID contract which we expect will be announced in early 2010. This contract will focus on democracy and governance projects from 2010 through 2015 and only organizations which have been invited to compete are eligible to submit proposals. SUNY has an outstanding track record for these types of AID contracts and we are confident that via this new partnership our members will be able to engage in an even greater number of democracy building projects worldwide.

Mr. Speaker, we have made it our mission to create these important opportunities for our membership. Former Members of Congress can play a crucial role in these types of programs and it is quite rewarding that we are seeing the beginning of the fruits of our labor. I thank you for letting me give this report, Jay, and I say this looks very exciting and this organization is really moving.

Mr. RHODES. Barbara, thank you very much. And you're right—we are moving. And it's positive movement.

I am now pleased to recognize our colleague from Maryland, Ms. Morella, in her capacity as representative of the executive committee overseeing many of our international programs. We achieve our objectives through congressional study groups involving Germany, Turkey and Japan. We have arranged multiple special events in the Capitol for representatives of the parliaments of those countries, and we continue to plan for trips overseas for our congressional staff and for sitting Members to welcome sitting parliamentarians and staff people here to the United States.

I am pleased to yield to the gentlelady from Maryland, Connie Morella, my classmate, for her report on our study group events.

Ms. MORELLA. Thank you, Jay.

Yes, we were members of the 100th Congress and it's a privilege to be here with former Members and with good friends who are here. And thanks for your leadership, Jay.

The United States Association of Former Members of Congress has created invaluable opportunities for current Members of Congress to engage with their counterparts around the world through programming hundreds of special events in the U.S. Capitol for international delegations. The Association is pleased to oversee the congressional study groups on Germany, Turkey and Japan as well as to initiate the first trilateral renewable energy roundtable for lawmakers from India, Germany and the United States. The Association's flagship international program is the Congressional Study Group on Germany, which has been conducted by the Association for over 25 years. The first trip I ever took was with that particular study group to Germany in 1987. The Study Group on Germany is one of the largest and the most active exchange programs involving the U.S. Congress and the parliament of another country. It is a bipartisan organization, with approximately one-third of the Members of the U.S. Congress participating. The House Chairs are Congressman RUSS CARNAHAN of Missouri and Congressman ROB BISHOP of Utah. The Senate Chairs are Senator EVAN BAYH of Indiana and Senator JEFF SESSIONS of Alabama.

The Congressional Study Group on Germany serves as a model for all other study groups under the umbrella of the FMC. The Study Group on Germany has three programming pillars: the Distinguished Visitors Program, which hosts guests from Germany at the U.S. Capitol; annual seminars allowing for in-depth discussions for the lawmakers of both countries; and a senior congressional staff study tour in Germany. In addition, the Congressional Study Group on Germany is a resource for Members of Congress to receive objective information on current U.S.-German relations. The study group also supports the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Program. Nearly every month, the study group brings high-ranking German elected officials to Capitol Hill to meet with Members of Congress as part of its Distinguished Visitors Program. Recently honored guests include: the German Federal Minister for Labor, Olaf Scholz; the Chairman of the Bundestag's Foreign Affairs Committee, Ruprecht Polenz; and the German Federal Minister for Economics and Technology, Karl-Theodor zu Guttenberg.

The highlight of each programming year is the annual Congress-Bundestag seminar. Each year, the study group brings approximately eight Members of Congress together with German legislators for several days to reinforce friendships and examine pertinent topics in transatlantic relations, such as NATO, climate change, or trade. The parliamentarians are joined by former Members of the Congress and the Bundestag, officials of the two federal governments, think tank and foundation representatives and members of the German-American corporate commu-

nity. The 26th annual seminar took place at the end of May in Berlin and Cologne. Highlights included meetings with Chancellor Angela Merkel and Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier. A study tour for senior congressional staff is planned for the fall in conjunction with the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

The Congressional Study Group on Germany has received generous grants from the German Marshall Fund of the United States which has supported it for 25 years. The Association would like to thank Craig Kennedy, GMF's President, for his support of the Congressional Study Group on Germany. Additional funding to assist with administrative expenses is received from a group of organizations whose representatives serve on a Business Advisory Council to the study group. The Business Advisory Council is chaired by former Member Tom Coleman of Missouri, who served as the chairman of the Congressional Study Group on Germany in the House in 1989. Current Business Advisory Council members are Airbus, Allianz, BASF, Daimler, Deutsche Telekom, Deutsche Post DHL, Eli Lilly, Fresenius, Lufthansa, RGIT, SAP, and Volkswagen. It's a large group.

Now there is a Congressional Study Group on Turkey, also. The Association established that congressional study group in 2005 and it has quickly become a major program for the Association. The Study Group on Turkey educates U.S. Members of Congress about the strategic relationship between the United States and Turkey and promotes increased cooperation between the two countries. Using the successful, long-running Congressional Study Group on Germany as a model, the Study Group on Turkey has become a highly relevant and unique forum for dialogue between U.S. and Turkish legislators and government officials. The Study Group on Turkey's House Chairs are Representative WEXLER of Florida and Representative WHITFIELD of Kentucky. Congressman COHEN of Tennessee and Congresswoman FOXX of North Carolina are the Vice Chairs.

Turkey is one of our strategic allies and is uniquely positioned to work with the United States on many important challenges such as peace in the greater Middle East and energy security. The Study Group on Turkey brings current Members of Congress together with their legislative peers, government officials and business representatives in Turkey and serves as a platform for all participants to learn about U.S.-Turkish relations firsthand.

Thanks to funding from the Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey, a nonpartisan foundation established by the Turkish business association TOBB, the German Marshall Fund of the United States and a group of corporate sponsors making up the Business Advisory Council, the Study Group on Turkey can carry out its

mandate to strengthen cooperation between the United States and Turkey. The Business Advisory Council members are Coca-Cola, Eli Lilly, Philip Morris and the Turkish-American Business Council.

The Congressional Study Group on Turkey runs a Distinguished Visitors Program for Members of Congress featuring visiting dignitaries from Turkey. Recent guests for roundtable discussions include Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu and Chairman Mercan of the Turkish Grand National Assembly's Foreign Affairs Committee. The Congressional Study Group on Turkey also conduct an annual U.S.-Turkey seminar. In 2008, Representative STEVE COHEN from Tennessee hosted the annual seminar in Memphis. United States Members of Congress and Turkish parliamentarians participated in the seminar and discussed topics that included U.S.-Turkish trade relations, the integration of immigrants and energy security. The seminar is a conference for U.S. members of Congress to discuss areas of mutual concern with their legislative counterparts in Turkey. This year's U.S.-Turkey seminar is scheduled to take place during the first week of September in Ankara and in Istanbul. Members of Congress and their counterparts in the Turkish Grand National Assembly will discuss such issues as stability in the Middle East and prospects for Turkey's accession into the European Union.

There are other study groups. I would like to mention that the Association serves as the secretariat for the Congressional Study Group on Japan. Founded in 1993 in cooperation with the East-West Center in Hawaii, the Congressional Study Group on Japan is a bipartisan group of Members from the House and the Senate. The Congressional Study Group on Japan arranges opportunities for Members of Congress to meet with their counterparts in the Japanese Diet in addition to organizing discussions for Members to hear from American and Japanese experts on U.S.-Japanese relations. The House Chairs for the Congressional Study Group on Japan are Congressman JIM McDERMOTT of Washington and Congresswoman SHELLY MOORE CAPITO of West Virginia. In the Senate, Senators JIM WEBB of Virginia and LISA MURKOWSKI of Alaska take an active role in study group programming. The Congressional Study Group on Japan is funded by the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission.

Finally, the Association is excited about the launch of a new program. Together with the Alliance for U.S. India Business, the Bertelsmann Foundation, the Robert Bosch Foundation, and TERI North America, we will hold the first Trilateral Renewable Energy Roundtable for lawmakers from Germany, India and the United States at the beginning of July. All three countries are major democratic economies from crucial regions of the globe that have a stake in world GDP as well as

environmental sustainability. Lawmakers from each country will have the opportunity to exchange their policy views to find common approaches for promoting renewable energy. The House leadership for this new project is Congressman JAY INSLEE of Washington and Congressman MICHAEL BURGESS of Texas.

The Congressional Study Groups on Germany, Turkey and Japan as well as the Trilateral Roundtable demonstrate the important role that the Former Members Association plays in assisting current Members in their foreign relations portfolio. I think the former Members can be very proud of the work they do to make these study groups possible and the opportunities they are in, and I consider it a privilege to participate in many of those activities.

I thank you for listening to this lengthy report that indicates some of the very important work being done by the Former Members Association. Thank you.

Mr. RHODES. Thank you, Connie. I think we can be proud of our excellent programming offered by our Congressional Study Groups.

Another program which our association and its members hold in very high esteem is the Congress to Campus Program. This wonderful program has been administered for the past 2 years internally by our staff. We have made the program grow and we have expanded it internationally. We've also reached out to community colleges and high schools. This growth was due to a large extent to a grant we received from the Joyce and Donald Rumsfeld Foundation. Let me take this opportunity to thank Secretary Rumsfeld for his invaluable support, which we really appreciate. We continue to work with the Stennis Center for Public Service, but all administration of this program is now done in-house by our staff.

I am very pleased to yield to a former president of our association, the Honorable MATT MCHUGH of New York, who chairs the Congress to Campus Program.

MATT, thanks for all your work.

Mr. MCHUGH. Thank you very much, JAY. It is always a pleasure to be here with our friends and colleagues.

Before giving my report on the program, I want to say it's a special pleasure to be here this year because we're giving our annual award to Lou Frey. I had the privilege of serving as vice president during Lou's tenure as president and he was a tremendously strong leader for us in those days and has since then been a leader of our association. I think no one really deserves the honor more than Lou and I note that he has Marcia his wife with him and many of his beautiful family members. And so we're delighted to be with you today, Lou, and to give you this long-deserved honor.

As JAY said, the Congress to Campus Program has been administered by the Association in cooperation with the Stennis Center for 2 years now. During

that time, the program has experienced a marked growth and has expanded for the first time to include community colleges across the country. As most of you know, this program is the flagship program for our Members. It sends bipartisan teams of former Members to colleges, universities and high schools across the country to educate the next generation of leaders on the importance of civic engagement. The participating students benefit, we think, from the interaction with our association members, whose knowledge and experience are truly a unique resource. Our members, as JAY said, benefit through their continued involvement in public service and the ability to engage young people on issues of importance to them.

During each visit, our bipartisan team conducts classes, meets individually with students and faculty, speaks to campus media, participates in both campus and community forums, and meets with local citizens. Institutions that we visit are encouraged to market the visit to the entire campus community, not just simply to students who major in political science, history or government. Over the course of 2½ days, hundreds of students are exposed to the former Members' message regarding the significance of public service.

The program has made both domestic and international visits this academic year, including two separate visits to campuses in the United Kingdom and one in Canada. Over the 2008–2009 academic year, the program has made 20 campus visits, including visits to institutions we had not previously visited, such as the U.S. Air Force Academy, the University of Montana, and a number of community colleges as I have mentioned. More than 30 former Members participated this year, and I want to thank all of you who took the time from your schedules to do so. I would also like to encourage those of you who have not had the opportunity to seriously consider participating. It's truly a great way to continue our public service after Congress.

I also want to extend our thanks to the faculty, the staff members and students who worked so diligently on each of these visits. Without their hard work, these visits would simply not have been possible. We rely heavily on the universities to take the lead in coordinating logistics related to each visit and appreciate the time they devote to ensuring that their students receive the full benefit of the program.

We have continued our relationship with the Stennis Center for Public Service, as JAY mentioned earlier, in the administration of this program and I think we owe a special debt of gratitude to Tracy Fine of our staff and to Brother Rogers of the Stennis Center for their fine work on this program. Our two staffs work very closely together to make the program such a success and we appreciate the continuing financial support we also receive from the Stennis Center. We look

forward to working with the Center in the years ahead.

I would also like to take this opportunity to second JAY's note of thanks to the Joyce and Donald Rumsfeld Foundation for its generous financial support for the program during this past year. The Foundation's generous grant enabled the program to reach an even wider array of students, including those at the community colleges that participated for the first time this year.

In addition to the expansion of the program to community colleges, the program has also commenced a concerted effort in partnership with the University of Central Florida and the Lou Frey Institute of Politics and Government to reach out to high school students via a series of webcasts, another example of the kind of work that Lou does consistently with younger people. These programs focus on specific issues and are designed as a tool for teachers to showcase the legislative process and encourage involvement in government. During the fall, the first in the series was piloted to high schools in Florida, and in 2009 and 2010 it will expand its reach to high schools in other States. Using this technology, the Association can reach a much larger audience and can make an even greater contribution to civics education. While these "virtual" visits cannot replace the person-to-person experience of a traditional Congress to campus visit, they can play an important supplemental role in teaching about representative democracy at the high school level.

We have also continued our working relationship with the People to People Ambassador Program which brings young people to our Nation's capital for a week of events centered on the concepts of character and leadership. These students are younger than those who participate in the Congress to Campus activities but they have already demonstrated a commitment to the ideals that Congress to Campus seeks to promote. The Association's involvement in this program allows our members living in this area, the Washington area, to speak to these younger students on the importance of public service and to answer their many questions about our government and our country. A number of our members continue to work full time, but this program permits them to continue their public service in this way. The events are typically held in the early morning at suburban locations, and I want to thank my colleagues who have participated in this program.

As some of you may know, the Association also partners with the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars to organize panels of former Members of Congress to meet with students who are interning in the area, and to participate in seminars that address current issues and the relationship between the administration and the Congress. During the past academic year, the Washington Center and

the Association convened six separate panels of former Members to speak with the students. Since last year was an election year, the Washington Center held seminars at each of the party conventions at which former Members of Congress spoke to the students about the party platforms, the nomination process and other issues that the students were interested in. I also want to thank my colleagues who participated in these panels throughout the year.

Finally, I want to say again how really grateful we are to those who have made the Congress to Campus Program such a success and to strongly encourage all of my friends and colleagues to participate in the program either by making a visit to a school or by recommending a school to host the program. As all of us know, a democracy can prosper only if its citizens are both informed and engaged, and as former legislators we have a particular opportunity and responsibility to encourage such involvement. This program gives us a good chance to do so, particularly with our young people. Again, I thank those who have been part of it and encourage all of us to continue to participate.

Thank you very much.

MR. RHODES. Thank you, MATT. I appreciate the time that you spend for the Association and for our projects and especially Congress to Campus which is one of our finest undertakings and at this point in time at least is the face of this organization publicly. That's where we are seen the most. I hope you will have a chance to read the article that was in Roll Call yesterday which should give you an indication in conjunction with the earlier reports about some of our international programs that we are going to try to expand the face so that it is recognized in areas other than the College to Campus Program. But College to Campus is clearly our flagship at this point and we really appreciate all the help we get, especially from MATT.

Now I need to talk to you a bit about the Statesmanship Dinner. Incidentally, in the Roll Call article, the only slight error that the reporter made in that the article was the implication that this is my swan song as president and that Dennis is taking over immediately after this meeting. I'm sorry to report to you, that's not true. You're stuck with me for another year. And Dennis is stuck up in that chair for another year. But next year he'll be up here lecturing you on how great we all are. We are chartered by Congress and receive no funding. The Association is responsible for finding our money to conduct our programs and one of the ways we do this is through our annual fundraising dinner. As part of this dinner, we recognize former and current Members of Congress for a particular achievement through our Statesmanship Award. In March of this year, we honored former and current Members who preceded their service in Congress

with their service in the military. The very first Congress included veterans of our revolutionary war and veterans have played a key role in the Congress ever since. This Congress in particular includes veterans from the Iraq war, and there are probably going to be some after the next election from the Afghan war. These are fine men and women who deserve our recognition. During the course of this dinner, four individuals, Representative BUYER, Senator JOHN MCCAIN, Congressman JOHN CONYERS and Senator DANIEL INOUE represented the different generations of Members who went from service in uniform to service in Congress. It was a very, very successful evening. It was very well received. And it was a successful fundraiser. This was our 13th fundraising dinner and the 13th time Lou Frey has chaired the undertaking. He deserves a special thanks for his tireless efforts on our behalf for this dinner. Lou is responsible for more ulcers amongst his dinner committee than he probably cares to acknowledge. A hard taskmaster he is, but he's a tremendous leader. He is outgrowing his own ulcers while he's making ours prosper as well. And he has promised me that he will not resign as dinner chairman while I am on the bridge. He is very disappointed to realize that there is another year, that he's got to do it another year. It's a solemn pledge.

Proceeds of the dinner help us with many of our projects. One of them is to collect the wisdom and experience of our members in book form. We have published one book called Inside the House, Former Members Reveal How Congress Really Works. It was heavily censored, but it has been widely received by political science departments in colleges and universities across the country. In a few weeks, we will be publishing volume 2 which is called Political Rules of the Road. This book collects various and sundry experiences and words of advice from people such as every single one of us in this room who has been through the caldron and have special stories to tell either because they are interesting or amusing, entertaining or enlightening. I am looking forward to seeing this book. We understand that 200 former and current Members participated and there are some 500 anecdotes contained in the volume. Another effort that we have undertaken is our annual golf tournament. Now we have had the annual golf tournament for 35 some years and it always involved sitting and former Members of Congress. Last year we expanded it to have a charitable role and we partnered with the Wounded Warriors Disabled Sports Foundation. Yesterday was the second tournament which involved the wounded warriors. As Dennis Hertel mentioned, we have been very successful in raising money for the Wounded Warriors Disabled Sports Foundation. We receive no proceeds from this tournament. And we have raised approximately \$175,000 over

the 2 years for the Wounded Warriors Disabled Sports Foundation.

There are many other things that we have been doing. We are running short on time. We need to move to one of the major reasons for being here, which is to honor Mr. Frey. We have continued the Life after Congress Seminar and we have sent a former Members delegation to Canada and our members had a chance to interact with colleagues in Ottawa, to strengthen that bond and that bond is very strong. We are organizing a similar mission to travel to Eastern Europe later this year. We will have a continuing relationship with the Web site project and next month, July, and I believe July 15 is the drop dead date, and I do mean drop dead date, for launching our new Web site. After July 15, I invite you to log on to www.usafmc.org and learn more than you probably want to know about all of us and all of you.

It is now my very distinct pleasure to present our 2009 Distinguished Service Award to our colleague from Florida, Mr. Frey.

For those of us who have known Lou for quite a few years, we can say without reservation, few people have the energy and the dedication that Lou commits to everything that he does. Few people have the boundless enthusiasm and his devotion to the task at hand and to the people he works with. He loves his country. He loves this institution. From the day he walked onto the House floor until this minute, he has always looked for ways to teach about Congress, to encourage the next generation of leaders, to help citizens become involved in their communities and in public service and in government. His work before, during and after his service has been distinguished and has made us a better and stronger institution and a better and stronger country. In addition, he has taken on a number of leadership positions within this organization, most of which have been alluded to. He has been our president, he has been our board member, he has been our taskmaster. We most of the time really, really appreciate him and when we don't, we are really, really not appreciating him. But most of the time we—I would not say, Lou, that you are the indispensable man, because we both know there is no such thing, but you are fairly close. Would you join me.

On behalf of the U.S. Association, it is my pleasure to present to you the 2009 Distinguished Service Award with plaque which is inscribed to Lou Frey. It says Congressman Lou Frey but "Congressman" is superfluous—it's just good old Lou—for his lifetime of exceptional public service. Both in and out of Congress, Lou Frey has demonstrated his great love of country and the democratic process. Renting the State of Florida, he served in the leadership of his party in the House of Representatives. He dedicated his congressional career to the youth of America, for example, by sponsoring legislation

that made higher education more financially attainable. After his tenure in Congress, he continued reaching out to America's high school and college students by establishing multiple programs that teach civic education. Thanks to Lou Frey, a new generation of leaders has become a better educated and engaged citizenry. Washington, D.C., June 16, 2009.

And it's got a gavel in it. I hope you don't think you're going to use that.

It is also my pleasure to give you a scrapbook of mementos from your friends and colleagues. I am happy to yield such time as he may consume, so long as it's not more than 10 minutes, to the Honorable Lou Frey.

Mr. FREY. Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, all my friends. It's so great to see all of you and so many in the 91st Club back. I am so proud of my family who have helped so much. I guess there's 15 of them here. I hope you've had a chance to see them before. If not, they're up in the gallery and my bride is here which I'm not allowed to introduce but I will, anyway.

I went back before I looked at these remarks and read the speeches of Bob Michel and so many great people and what they felt about the House. I just can't match it. No way that I can match the eloquence of the words, Bob, that you and the other people did. So I thought what I would do is sort of talk about what I really care about and what I've been working on. I think we as former Members have a unique opportunity to do something that no one else can do because we're better at it where we sit in life right now than anybody, and that's the dream I had of young people and young people understanding what we've been given. It's amazing what our country has been given and it's amazing what we don't know about it. I guess I first ran into that when I started an intern program where young people come up and live with me or stay with Marcia and I, eight at a time. We would have them chaperoned. We'd go back and talk about it. And most of them were like me. I never went to my first political meeting until I was 25 years old. In school I had one course in civics. I never met a Member of Congress or a member of a State legislature basically until I started to run for office. I ran for office because I didn't want to be a State legislator and that's about all I knew. I got going on that path, I'm in Congress, and gee whiz, now what do you do, Coach? My leader wants me to play shortstop. What else can I do? I found as I got into it and spent more and more time that really our country is civically illiterate. Just plain and simple, we don't know what the devil we have. So what we tried to do in Florida as a pilot program is figure out what we could do about it rather than just saying it really doesn't work.

If you go back and you look at Jefferson, we were at the monument the other night and the quotes. I went back and I found a letter he wrote in 1816. He

said, "If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be." This is going back pretty far, to 1816. When we look at our national landscape, there's a lot of studies that have been done, polls that have been out. A guy in Texas at the LBJ School looked at young people, and he said that the "lack of civic engagement and civic literacy among American youth is widespread. They know very little about even the basic of the American constitutional system and have no historical perspective on the development of the nation and its relations with the rest of the world." I'll use my State as an example but, let me tell you, your States aren't much better and some may even be worse. But I'll pick on Florida a little bit. Senator GRAHAM and I started a joint center of civics. We had some surveys done. Florida, of the 50 States, is 47th in the average rate of volunteerism, 49th in the percentage of people who attend public meetings, and 40th in the percentage of citizens who work with others to solve a problem. And overall of the 50 States, Florida is 47th from the top in terms of civic literacy. But, let me just add to that, we've had some national tests done, surveys done. These statistics really blow you away. Seventy-three percent of the students in fourth grade could not identify the Constitution from among four choices as the instrument that contains the basic rules. That's 73 percent of the students in fourth grade. Seventy-five percent of the students in fourth grade can't identify the three parts of the Federal Government out of four possible choices. Ninety-four percent of students in grade eight couldn't give two reasons why it would be useful for a country to have a Constitution. And on and on.

The studies that really make you cry are, for instance, the studies that were done by the University of Connecticut who tested 14,000 freshmen and seniors. The average grade of the senior in civics was 53 percent. Fifty-three percent. These are seniors in school. A Florida bar survey found out that 41 percent of adults in Florida couldn't identify the three branches of American government; 54 percent couldn't correctly describe the meaning of separation of powers; 39 percent couldn't describe the meaning of checks and balances. We have two U.S. Senators living in my hometown. Ninety percent of the kids couldn't name one of them. But they haven't been indicted, so that sort of takes away from it, I guess, a little bit.

In the Florida primary in '06 which nominated a Governor and a Senator, the effective winning vote was 5.1 percent of the total Florida population. Really not a great turnout. Now there has obviously been a better turnout in the Presidential race. It was a nice spike. But when we surveyed the people there, they said, Well, we're not going to really do much after it. We don't intend to really do much. Over half the

people said, yeah, they were going to vote and everything but they weren't going to do anything after it because politics just stunk.

So what you're looking at is a situation where really as a country we've been given this incredible gift and we don't know what we have and it's getting worse each year. It isn't getting better. We've been privileged to be here. There's been about 11,000 people who have ever served in the House. That's about half as many as you get at a national ball game these days. Not really very many people have ever had the privilege that we have here. We have an opportunity that is unique. Because as a Member of Congress you don't have any credibility. Right now there's a lot of fussing going on and so forth and so on and when you go out and teach in that, it's tough because as a Member of Congress you're rightly caring about your party and, you know, are you going to get reelected, are you going to get your party to stay in power. You have all these other things going. We've been in the big leagues. We've made it. All of us have been a product of the toughest system going and we've served in the greatest legislative body in the world. But our goal is different now. If our party's in, okay, fine. If it isn't, okay, we're going to survive it. We're not running for election. We are running, though, to change the young people and change what they believe and what they can do. Let me tell you, young people care. We've got a symposium. We've had 13 of them. We get about a thousand kids that come every 6 months to it. We put it on the Internet. Kids care if you give them a chance. We have a civics academy for high schools, for colleges and for elected officials, for local officials we have. We've created a civics academy in Leon County where for 3 years we're going to teach civics. We're trying to change the law in Florida so civics will be taught not just once but three or four times as we go along. People will come. Young people will come. And as former Members with what we're doing with the programs we have, University Press is here today with a new book coming out, with the program we're starting on the Internet which is going to reach across the country, there are a lot of things that we can do. We don't have to take second place to anybody. Because we are on the frontlines and we can do it better, we have more knowledge, we've been through it, but we don't have a dog in the fight in terms of where it comes out. We just want young people, young Americans, to be exposed to what it is. We're not telling them to vote Republican, vote Democrat but we are telling them, look at what we have, look at the Constitution, look at what we've been given. It would be a shame to let this go away. And if we don't reach out to the young people, the young people coming along, it is going to continue to go away. And I think that's the challenge.

Tom Brokaw, when he gave Ford's eulogy, talked about the Greatest Generation who enlisted in the war and they went and they fought and they came back and they reenlisted. They reenlisted in this country. That's what I'm asking us to do, all of us. Let us reenlist like they did and make a difference and we can do it.

Thank you so much. I'm obviously humbled by the award. Everyone here could get, I recognize that. I thank you for it. I want to thank especially my family whom I dearly love and who has been with me all the way.

Thank you very much.

Mr. RHODES. Lou, thank you. It's leadership that our young people are looking for. With the efforts of people such as you and the people that you work with and the people you work with here, hopefully we are positioning ourselves to be able to assist in providing that leadership. A lot of the programs that you have instituted which we have been privileged to participate in, and I am particularly speaking of the civics education program and the webcasts, I think we have a very, very unique opportunity to reach young men and women who really are hungry to be told, not what to do but why they are free and why they have the opportunities that they have. And it is because of you and efforts of people like you that we are going to make that effort.

We thank you very much.

I now have a portion of the program that we will go through. It's not a happy one, but I will read to you the names of our former colleagues who have passed away during the course of the past year. Each of us probably knows at least some of these names, and some may know all of them. During the past year, the following individuals have gone to a greater reward:

Glenn Andrews of Alabama
Robert Cornell of Wisconsin
Tim Hall of Illinois
Frank Harrison of Pennsylvania
Jesse Helms of North Carolina
Jack Kemp of New York
David King of Utah
Horace Kornegay of North Carolina
Dan Kuykendall of Tennessee
Raymond Lederer of Pennsylvania
Clem McSpadden of Oklahoma
Bill Orton of Utah
William Patman of Texas
James Pearson of Kansas
Claiborne Pell of Rhode Island
Carl Pursell of Michigan
Matthew Rinaldo of New Jersey
Paul Rogers of Florida
John Seiberling of Ohio
Paul Todd of Michigan
Stephanie Tubbs-Jones of Ohio
Lionel Van Deerlin of California
Jerome Waldie of California
Lyle Williams of Ohio
Wendell Wyatt of Oregon.

I ask all of you, including those in the gallery, if you would rise for just a moment of silence to pay respect to their memories.

Thank you.

A new addition to our annual meeting is a memorial breakfast where we will further celebrate the lives and contributions of our past former colleagues. The breakfast is tomorrow morning at 9 a.m. at the Capitol Hill Club. Chaplain Coughlin will join us and it would be very nice to see as many of you there as possible. We are going to give opportunities for us to share memories, if we will, of some of those with whom we were particularly acquainted who have gone on.

Before I conclude, I need to make mention of the fact that we have two former parliamentarians from Canada who have joined us. Lou Duguay is my counterpart in the Canadian Association of Former Parliamentarians and Murad Velshi is a former member of the Ontario legislature. We are honored that you have joined us and hope that you will participate in the rest of our programs.

I want to thank other members of our executive committee: Vice President Hertel; Treasurer Morella; Secretary Kennelly; and our immediate Past President, Jim Slattery. I also want to pay special recognition to our special immediate Past President, Jack Buechner. When Mr. Slattery left Washington to go back to Kansas to run for the Senate, we were lacking an immediate Past President who is a valuable member of the executive committee, and we were able to prevail upon Jack to fill in, which he did, he did very ably and contributed very much to the Association's efforts during the course of time that Jim was not here. As we know, Mr. Slattery fell short in his campaign for the Senate and has returned to Washington and has resumed his duties as immediate Past President. But, Jack, thank you for your help. We needed it and we appreciate it.

I think that it would be appropriate for me to take a moment to recognize our staff. These are very, very talented professional, hardworking, dedicated people, and they work for us and they work very, very well for us. A lot of the things that we get accomplished we couldn't do without the assistance of our five staff personnel. They are:

Esra Alemdar, Jr., Program Officer
Whitney Novak, Member Services Manager

Tracy Fine, Democracy Officer
Sudha David-Wilp, International Programs Director

Pete Weichlein, Executive Director.

Our thanks to all of you for everything you do for us.

That is the end of my report. I want to thank Leader HOYER and Leader BOEHNER for giving us the opportunity to be here on the floor today and Speaker PELOSI for making the Chamber available to us.

Mr. HERTEL. The Chair wants to thank the president of our association, the gentleman from Arizona, for all his hard work and leadership, especially in these difficult times. He does have this extra burden to carry since the gen-

tleman from Kansas ran for the Senate and it's been in difficult times, especially in this economy. It's much harder to get the people to volunteer to contribute money. As we thank Lou Frey for his leadership all these years, it goes to such wonderful programs as our Congress to Campus Program but to Jay Rhodes for carrying this heavy load.

I also wanted to recognize Mr. Buechner who has done such a wonderful job as President and Past President in leading our group and with advice. And also Matt McHugh, our former President of the Association who is here; and Phil Ruppe from my State of Michigan. Because of all these gentlemen, we've had such a great opportunity. We have also had women before as Lindy Boggs, one of our outstanding Presidents before of our association. What a difference they have made in getting people to participate and bringing these programs to fruition. I have to also thank Barbara Kennelly, our treasurer, and Connie Morella for all their hard work and all the time they devoted, especially in this last year.

The Chair again wishes to thank all the former Members of the House for their presence here today. Before terminating these proceedings, the Chair would like to invite those former Members who did not respond when the roll was called to give their name to the Clerk for inclusion on the roll. The Chair wishes to thank the other former Members of the House for their presence here today and all of their work in contributing to all the programs that we have been talking about for the last hour and a half. As Lou Frey said, it's only with the former Members that we can continue to participate and have these programs work internationally and in over 40 campuses around our country. And now with the Wounded Warriors addition to make that disabled sports program so successful. Thank you again. We appreciate all the work that you have done.

The meeting is adjourned.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. HOLDEN) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin offered the following prayer:

Lord God, Who knows the truth when it is still hidden from our mind's eye, and Who reads our hearts, filled with hidden desires, we bring our needs to You in prayer.

Sometimes we are simply elated by hope. Often we are overwhelmed by the reality of daily concerns. Occasionally we are totally blinded by the emotional force field around us. Yet, we try to clear the air with our prayer.

Help us, Lord, to humbly admit that at times we are not fully conscious of what is our greatest need.